



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#19/e  
Hita  
3-12-03

In re the Application of: **Nobutaka YAMAMOTO et al.**

Group Art Unit: 1636

Serial No.: **09/718,388**

Examiner: **Konstantina T. Katcheves**

Filed: **November 24, 2000**

**P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 3765**

For: **METHOD FOR CULTURING CELL AND A CULTURE VESSEL**

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.111**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

February 24, 2003

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated **October 22, 2002**, extended to **February 22, 2003**, by a one-month Petition for Extension of Time, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**CLEAN VERSION OF AMENDMENTS**

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claims 4 and 11 without prejudice or disclaimer, amend claims 1-3, 5-9 and 12-15, and add new claim 29, as follows:

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1. (Thrice Amended) A method for adhering and proliferating epithelial cells, which comprises the steps of:

inoculating, culturing and then treating by a treatment selected from freezing, drying and irradiating, in a culture vessel, fibroblasts derived from a mammal, so as to leave an extracellular